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Malvastrum angustum, Gray.—Has any botanist ever observed cleistogamy in this plant? While exploring a tract of high rocky ground east of this place the sixth of July, I discovered some twenty specimens of this rare species, most all of which bore seed on the lower branches. But as there were buds not yet expanded upon the top and upper branches, I deferred collecting until the next day, supposing the buds would open and the petals expand. But day after day went by, and as the carpels commenced to form, the corolla withered and remained upon the top of the carpels. Upon being wetted, the petals showed no signs of having dehisced.

Owing to scant material I cannot be sure that my observations were of any worth.

If any other collector can enlighten me on this point I will be very thankful.

From the simple fact that all of my exchanges have only fruited specimens, I would infer that they have never seen the flowers.—FRANK BUSH, *Independence, Mo.*

Some Notes on Physostegia Virginiana.—An idle hour on the prairie lands of Northern Indiana brought me face to face with acres of this beautiful "False Dragon-head," in full bloom, and I wondered what could be learned of its life in such a causal interview. Nothing can be more graceful than its spikes of rose-colored flowers, but the great variability of its leaves showed what a puzzle to the amateur botanist some of the extreme forms would be, if isolated. In many cases the leaves were very small, linear, and entire. But very soon a new feature attracted me with all the interest of a discovery, for in some way I had never associated it with *Physostegia*. The flowers were strikingly cataleptic, for the slightest touch upon one would push it from its normal position and there it would stay; and so it could be turned indefinitely upon its pedicel, standing quietly in any position within the range of more than half a circle. All the flowers of a thick cluster can thus be thrown toward any side of the stem. A consultation of Gray's Fl. N. Am. shows that this character is attributed to the whole genus. Its object was suggested by seeing a very natural result of this mechanism. A slight breeze, accompanied by a dash of rain, suddenly sprang up, and every flower veered about, like a most sensitive weather-vane, leaving only the back exposed to the wind and rain. The horizontal position of the flowers and their widely opened tubes would have permitted half of them to be filled with water had they not so quickly shifted their direction.

This observation led to a thought as to the method of securing cross-fertilization in this species. The long style rises among the four stamens along the upper part of the swollen tube, being attached to it by an entanglement of hairs, the stigma lying close